

Message Text

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60

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-14 ISO-00 L-03 CAB-09 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00

PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15 SS-20 NSC-07 DRC-01 /122 W

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R 031213Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0532

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, FR, UK, IR

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: THE SHAH'S CONCORDES

1. FRENCH RADIO ANNOUNCED EVENING JUNE 28 THAT PRIME MINISTER CHIRAC HAD TOLD PRESS THAT SHAH HAD CONVERTED HIS THREE OPTIONS ON CONCORDE INTO FIRM ORDERS. MISE AU POINT FROM PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE CARRIED BY AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE JUNE 29 STATED THAT "CONTRARY TO CERTAIN NEWS REPORTS" SHAH HAD SIMPLY CONFIRMED THAT HE WAS MAINTAINING HIS THREE OPTIONS.

2. ONLY INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE OF JULY 1 REPORTED ABOVE CONFUSING BY-PLAY DRAWING ON REUTERS DESPATCH FROM TEHRAN. FRENCH PRESS MERELY NOTED IN FAIRLY LOW KEY THAT SHAH HAD TRAVELED BACK TO TEHRAN VIA CONCORDE AND WAS MAINTAINING HIS OPTIONS FOR POSSIBLE PURCHASE.

3. COMMENT: WE SUSPECT THAT GOF WORKED HARD ON SHAH TO TRY TO BRING HIM TO CONVERT HIS OPTIONS INTO FIRM ORDERS, FOR RECEIPT OF ORDER FOR THREE MORE

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CONCORDES AND FIRST ORDER FROM FOREIGN BUYER WOULD

PROBABLY HAVE MADE CONTINUATION OF CONCORDE PROGRAM
A FOREGONE CONCLUSION WHEN FRENCH AND BRITISH MEET
LATER THIS MONTH TO DISCUSS THIS QUESTION, AND IT
WOULD HAVE STRENGTHENED FRENCH HAND IN THOSE TALKS IN
ARGUING FOR EXTENSION OF CONCORDE PRODUCTION RUN TO
NINETEEN AIRCRAFT. SO IT IS NOT SURPRISING THAT
CHIRAC OR HIS STAFF MAY HAVE PREMATURELY AND EAGERLY
MISREAD THE SHAH'S INTENTIONS.
IRWIN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COMMERCIAL AIRCRAFT, AIRCRAFT SALES, CONCORDE, CONTRACTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 JUL 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: shawdg
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974PARIS16233
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740177-0280
From: PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740777/aaaacnxq.tel
Line Count: 70
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: shawdg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22 APR 2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <20 FEB 2003 by shawdg>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CIVAIR: THE SHAH'S CONCORDES
TAGS: ETRN, FR, UK, IR
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005